

1902, *W. M. Canby*, Mt. Hope, June 24, 1901, *A. A. Heller*. S. W. VIRGINIA, July 16, 1892, *J. K. Small*. This form has been for many years in cultivation at the Arnold Arboretum, where it was received under the name *V. laevigatum* from the nursery of Parsons & Son, Flushing, Long Island. As an ornamental shrub it is superior to *V. dentatum* and *V. venosum* on account of its larger corymbs and larger dark green foliage and more vigorous habit.

*V. VENOSUM*, var. **longifolium**, comb. nov. *V. dentatum*, var. *longifolium*, Dippel, l. c. 183 (1889); Koehne, Deutsch. Dendr. 537 (1893). *V. longifolium*, "Loddiges" Zabel, in Beissner, Schelle & Zabel, Handb. Laubholz-Ben. 441 (1903). This form known only in cultivation differs in its narrower and longer leaves, pubescent on both sides, more densely beneath, with single or forked hairs. In the plant cultivated at the Arnold Arboretum the inflorescence and the young branchlets are glabrous, but as Dippel and Koehne say that they are either glabrous or pubescent, I am inclined to refer here a *Viburnum* collected by Dr. Mellichamp in 1878 near Bluffton, S. C. (herb. Gray) which has the inflorescence and the young branchlets stellate-tomentose, but agrees otherwise with the cultivated plant.

ARNOLD ARBORETUM.

## NOTES ON PUBLICATIONS RECENTLY RECEIVED.

Professor T. C. Porter's long expected (now alas posthumous) *Flora of Pennsylvania* is at hand,<sup>1</sup> having been edited and provided with analytical keys by Dr. J. K. Small, the nephew of author. The work is an excellently printed royal octavo volume of 362 pages enumerating no less than 2201 species. It is restricted to the spermatophytes and the sequence of orders and families is essentially that of Engler & Prantl's *Natürlichen Pflanzenfamilien*. However, several departures from this arrangement are made, and not always with happy results. Thus the *Compositae* are divided, as by several recent writers, into three families, the *Cichoriaceae*, *Ambrosiaceae*, and *Compositae*. About the practical value of this division there will of course be a difference of opinion, but if it is made, there would certainly

<sup>1</sup> *Flora of Pennsylvania* by Thomas Conrad Porter, D. D., LL. D. Ed. by John Kunkel Small, Ph. D. Ginn & Co., Boston, 1903.



seem to be no reason for inverting the sequence and placing the *Cichorieae* before, *i. e.* below the *Compositae* proper. It is one of the cardinal principles of the modern and very philosophic German system of plant arrangement, that the complex shall come after the simple, as having in all probability developed subsequently. Now, it cannot be doubted that a highly zygomorphic corolla such as is found in the *Cichorieae*, is a more complicated structure in the sense of being a wider departure from primitive simplicity, than is the regular corolla of the *Eupatorieae*, etc. It is easy to believe that the asymmetrical corolla of the *Cichorieae* has arisen from the more common regular form by a gradual one-sided splitting, but it is quite difficult to conceive that the highly zygomorphic corolla was the primitive form. It should be remembered also that the *Cichorieae*, provided as they are with an elaborate latex system, have a more complex anatomy than the other *Compositae*, which is an added reason for considering them of later development.

The nomenclature and delimitation of groups is in conformity with the practice of the school of botany which has been called the "Neo-American." This will naturally be a matter of regret to many of Dr. Porter's friends, who perceive that even after ten years' trial by some American botanists the Rochester nomenclature is no nearer acceptance by the great European systematists. One of the alleged merits of the reform system applied in Dr. Porter's flora is, we believe, its consistency, yet in turning the pages one is struck with obvious incongruities. For instance, many well established names have been discarded on account of the so-called doctrine of homonyms, yet *Cornus candidissima*, Marsh. (1785) is maintained quite without regard to the earlier *C. candidissima*, Mill. (1769). *Erysimum* is kept up as a good genus resting upon the last of its four Linnaean species, yet *Stellaria*, which if similarly treated would have to rest upon *S. cerastioides* and to stand for what is now called *Cerastium*, is wholly suppressed and the genus *Cerastium* although of later publication is allowed to stand. *Agrimonia striata*, a name which Michaux gave to a Canadian plant, is arbitrarily transferred to a species ranging from Connecticut southward. It is needless to multiply such examples. Those here mentioned are selected because they have all been previously and quite without effect called to the attention of the reform school. A small slip in authority, originating doubtless in a typographical error, but handed on from publication



to publication, is that of ascribing *Melilotus alba* to Desvaux instead of Desrousseaux its real author. The local distribution of each species and variety within the limits of Pennsylvania is stated with remarkable completeness and unquestioned accuracy, but the same cannot be said for the more general ranges given. This is, of course, a secondary feature in a local flora, and therefore some incompleteness or slips in stating extra-limital ranges should be readily condoned, yet surely surprise must be felt when a plant so noteworthy and so much discussed as our dwarf mistletoe is assigned a range which does not include a third part of the territory over which it is known to extend. However, notwithstanding the defects here mentioned, the work as a whole is a noble monument of untiring and lifelong effort to understand thoroughly and record accurately a rich and interesting flora. Dr. Small's addition of keys contributes a feature which must have cost no inconsiderable labor and will be appreciated by those who use the book in the field.

Under the title Contributions from the Ames Botanical Laboratory, No. 1, Mr. Oakes Ames has just issued a valuable and well illustrated paper on some orchids of southern Florida. The observations relate chiefly to specimens recently collected by Mr. A. A. Eaton. It is to be hoped that this carefully prepared paper is the forerunner of an extended series of similar contributions concerning a family of plants long in need of an American specialist.

Dr. W. F. Ganong in the Educational Review of St. John, New Brunswick, xvii. 196, has published an excellent article upon plant-nomenclature.

Bulletin 103 of the Vermont Agricultural Experiment Station, a joint publication by Professor L. R. Jones and other members of the staff, deals with the Maple Sap Flow. Although it contains much tabular matter, embodying the results of extensive experimentation, the whole subject is clearly discussed in language so free from technicalities that the bulletin will be a practical and valuable guide to maple sugar makers, not only in Vermont but throughout the range of the industry. — B. L. R.

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MEETING OF THE VERMONT BOTANICAL CLUB.—The ninth annual winter meeting of the Vermont Botanical Club was held at Burlington January 21–22, with President E. Brainerd in the chair. The follow-